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Weekend, October 6-8, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhill

STOP THE AIR RAID

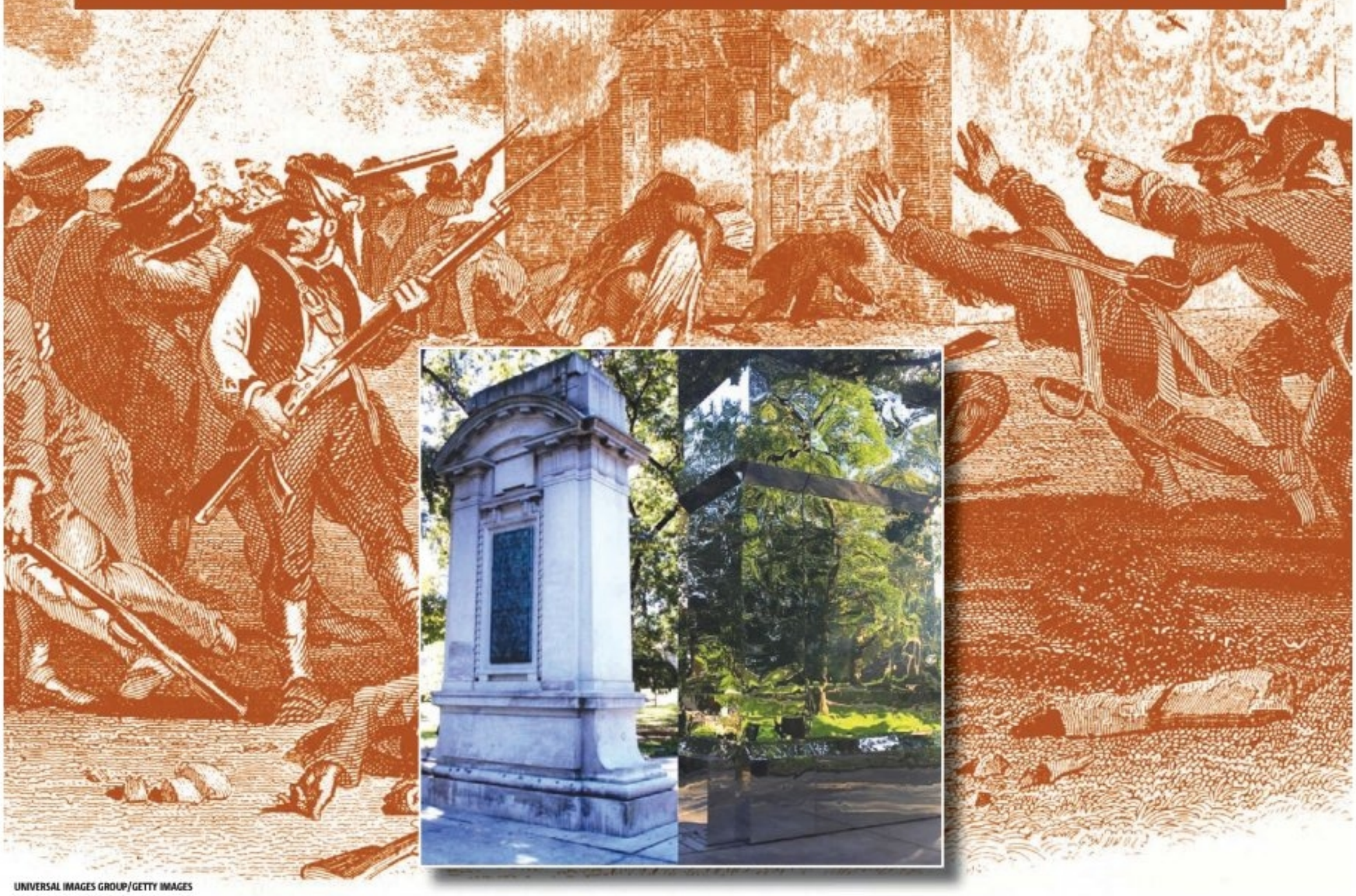
Can the Eagles secondary stop surrendering big plays when the Cardinals come to town? 24-25

'Blade Runner' is back. We'll tell you why. 12

Four things you can't miss at Old City Fest this year . 16

THE NEW BATTLE OF GERMANTOWN

As Philly's Revolutionary War history is celebrated Saturday, a conflict is brewing over how an artist has re-imagined the Germantown monument to that battle.



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WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

GREGORY J. WAKEMAN, ENTERTAINMENT REPORTER

Not many sequels are 35 years in the making and even fewer actually end up rivaling their lauded original, but "Blade Runner 2049" has done both. Over the last few weeks I spoke with the cast and crew of the hugely anticipated follow-up, and asked them the hows and whys. Delve inside to see Metro's coverage, which also includes a review for both the original and this weekend's sure-to-be top earning movie. **metro.us**

TRUMP DENIES TILLERSON THREATENED TO RESIGN

President Donald Trump denied on Thursday that Rex Tillerson had threatened to resign after a news report that the secretary of state had called him a moron and had to be repeatedly persuaded not to leave the administration. "Rex Tillerson never threatened to resign," Trump said in his most direct refutation of the resignation report. "This is Fake News put out by @NBCNews. Low news and reporting standards. No verification from me." On Wednesday, the top U.S. diplomat, whose tenure has been dogged with rumors about unhappiness with Trump's policies and rhetoric, said he was committed to the president's agenda and had never considered resigning. NBC reported that, in a session with Trump's national security team and Cabinet officials at the Pentagon.

RUSSIAN HACKERS STOLE NSA CYBER SECRETS

2 Russian government-backed hackers stole highly classified U.S. cyber secrets in 2015 from the National Security Agency after a contractor put information on his home computer, the Wall Street Journal reported. The theft included information on penetrating foreign computer networks and protecting against cyber attacks and is likely to be viewed as one of the most significant security breaches to date, the newspaper said. The NSA declined to comment, citing agency policy "never to comment on our affiliates or personnel issues." Reuters was not able to independently verify the report. If confirmed, the hack would mark the latest in a series of breaches of classified data from the secretive intelligence agency, including the 2013 leaks of data on classified U.S. surveillance programs by contractor Edward Snowden.

COMIC CON

3 A fan cosplays as Harvey Two Face during 2017 New York Comic Con — Day 1 on Thursday in New York City.

GETTY IMAGES

DRONE, ARMY HELICOPTER COLLISION INVESTIGATED

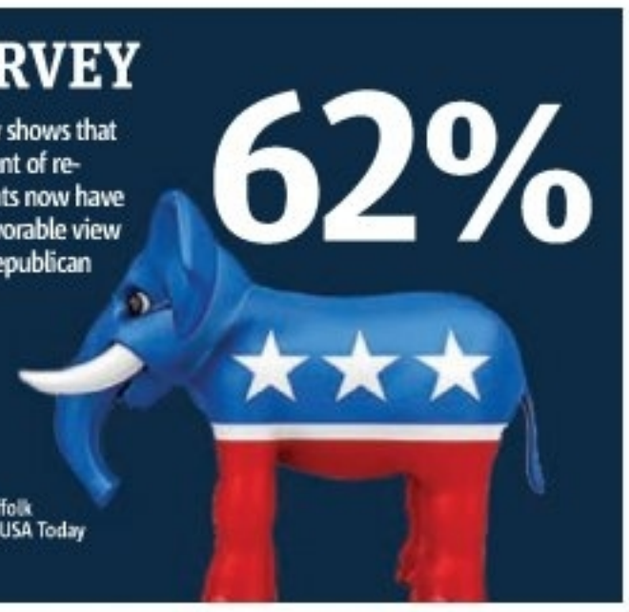
4 The National Transportation Safety Board said on Thursday it is investigating the Sept. 21 collision of a civilian drone and a U.S. Army UH-60 helicopter east of Staten Island, New York City, as concerns mount over the rising number of unmanned aircraft in U.S. airspace. The safety board said the Army helicopter sustained damage to its main rotor blade, window frame and transmission deck. The Army is conducting a mishap investigation, the agency said. Earlier this year, the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration banned drone flights over 133 U.S. military facilities, citing security concerns. In August, the Pentagon said it had given U.S. military bases the green light to shoot down private and commercial drones that could endanger aviation safety or pose other threats.

NETFLIX UPS US FEES FOR FIRST TIME SINCE 2015

5 Netflix Inc's U.S. business announced the first rises in monthly fees in two years on Thursday, hiking costs for two of its three main subscription plans as it spends heavily on its own original content. The company's mid-range plan, which allows streaming on two devices at the same time, was increased to $10.99 per month from $9.99. The top-tier plan, which allows streaming on four screens in high definition, was raised to $13.99 per month from $11.99. The basic plan fee remained at $7.99. Shares in the global streaming pioneer rose as much as 4.5 percent to a record high of $192.80. "Most investors believe that Netflix is priced well below its value to consumers and want to see the management continue to increase monetization," Rob Sanderson analyst at MKM Partners said.

SURVEY

A survey shows that 62 percent of respondents now have an unfavorable view of the Republican Party.



Source: Suffolk University-USA Today survey

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Art project cloaks Germantown monument on the anniversary of the historic battle

The Battle of Germantown re-enactment has hit a bump or two, as some locals are irate that an artist's project is covering the monument as its anniversary is celebrated.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

For 40 years, American history enthusiasts have recreated the Revolutionary War Battle of Germantown at the location of the original battle, which the Americans lost to the British 240 years ago.

This year, a slightly different battle is a-brewing. Karyn Olivier is one of 10 artists who created pieces installed around Philly as part of Monument Lab, a two-month project investigating the meanings and possibilities of public art. Olivier covered an entire historic monument in reflective plexiglass, turning it into a giant mirror.

The problem? Her project covered up the monument to the Battle of Germantown — which subsequently won't be visible to anyone on Oct. 7, the day when a crowd of thousands is expected to descend on Germantown to view some 400 reenactors bring the battle to life and celebrate the history the monument pays tribute to.

"You covered the monument that is about Germantown!" said Pamela Bracey, a lifelong Germantown resident, while walking through Vernon Park, where the monument sits. "People come from all around the world to see the re-enactment. People want to read about Germantown. We are the only park that had its monument covered. Germantown often gets written out, unless it's something bad."

Olivier, also a Germantown resident, acknowledged that she had heard the rumblings about her work, entitled "The Battle is Joined," during a recent panel discussion at UArts. But she said she hoped more engagement with the monument could spark positive discoveries.

"I was hoping that the concealment … would allow it to feel really expansive," Olivier said. "I was hoping all of a sudden, this monument would feel more accessible, less intimidating, or like its colossal nature and the material weightiness would dissipate."

Dr. David Young, executive director of the historic Cliveden house in Germantown where the re-enactment will be hosted, said Olivier's piece is "outstanding."

"There's always battles in Germantown, whether they cover up the monument or not, people are passionate about history, that's what this is evidence of," Young said. "It's not like they're taking away the monument. No one goes to the monument to figure out what happened at the battle."

The original Battle of Germantown, on Oct. 4, 1777, took place on a hot, foggy day, and U.S. troops lost to the British, who were occupying Philadelphia at that time. U.S. troops were handicapped by their drunken commander and the vision-obscuring fog. However, soldiers for George Washington's Continental Army, who afterward went on to winter at Valley Forge, are still celebrated for stopping further British advances, despite the battle ending in defeat.

"Germantown is both a parable and an incubator for how we remember history. The monument at Vernon Park is an opportunity for continuing this discussion," Young said. "If it inspires more people to come see some of the historic sites or consider the value of what we're commemorating, more power to it."

The Germantown Revolutionary Festival will be held Oct. 7 at Cliveden at 6401 Germantown Avenue, with reenactments of the Battle of Germantown at 12 pm and 3 pm. Visit cliveden.org for more information.

The covered Battle of Germantown monument. PROVIDED

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A bump stock device that fits onto a semi-automatic rifle to increase the rate of fire. GETTY IMAGES

Republicans eye 'bump stocks' after Las Vegas massacre

Bump stocks allow legal rifles to act like automatic weapons, which are largely illegal in the U.S.

Republican lawmakers on Thursday said they would look into "bump stock" gun accessories after a retiree used rifles equipped with them to rain gunfire onto a Las Vegas concert, killing 58 people in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

The influential National Rifle Association, which has opposed efforts to pass federal gun legislation following past mass shootings, said it would not oppose the move. It said the devices that allow semi-automatic rifles to behave as fully automatic weapons should be subject to additional regulations.

Investigators struggled to understand why Stephen Paddock, 64, assembled an arsenal of nearly 50 firearms and used them to spray bullets from the 32nd floor of a Las Vegas Strip hotel into a crowd of country-music fans on Sunday before killing himself. Twelve rifles found in Paddock's hotel room had bump stocks, authorities said.

Reports also emerged on Thursday that Paddock may have looked into carrying out an attack in Chicago or Boston.

Audio and video of the Sunday night attack contained the sound of long periods of continuous gunfire sprayed into a crowd of terrified people, stirring the long-standing U.S. debate over how to regulate gun ownership, which is protected by the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Senior Republicans on Thursday signaled they were ready to examine the sale of "bump stocks." The devices essentially allow legal rifles to serve as automatic weapons, which are largely illegal in the United States.

"Clearly that's something we need to look into," House Speaker Paul Ryan told radio talk show host Hugh Hewitt, referring to the accessories. "I didn't even know what they were until this week. I think we're quickly coming up to speed with what this is."

The No. 2 Republican senator a day earlier had called for a review of bump stocks while Democrats had already been urging new legislation.

Before the Las Vegas attack, a man named Stephen Paddock booked rooms in a Chicago hotel that overlooked the site of the August Lollapalooza music festival, a spokeswoman for Chicago's Blackstone Hotel said in an email. It was unclear if that person, who never checked in, was the same Stephen Paddock, the spokeswoman said.

Paddock also researched locations in Boston, NBC reported, citing multiple law enforcement sources.

Police in Boston and Chicago said they were aware of the reports and investigating them.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation said on Wednesday there remained no evidence indicating the shooting spree was an act of terrorism. Paddock's girlfriend, Marilou Danley, was questioned by the FBI on Wednesday and said in a statement that she had been unaware of Paddock's plans.

"He never said anything to me or took any action that I was aware of that I understood in any way to be a warning that something horrible like this was going to happen," Danley, 62, said in the statement released by her lawyer, Matt Lombard.

Danley, who returned late Tuesday from a family visit to the Philippines, is regarded by investigators as a "person of interest." Lombard said his client, an Australian citizen of Filipino heritage, was cooperating fully with authorities.

An FBI official in Las Vegas said no one had been taken into custody as yet.

Danley shared Paddock's home at a retirement community in Mesquite, Nevada, northeast of Las Vegas, before traveling to the Philippines in mid-September. REUTERS

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What Russia investigation? Trump uses tragedies to shirk deadline, writer states

Being POTUS can't be easy, but attending to more than one issue at a time is a necessary skill. If you close your eyes, Mr. President, we can still see you.

KIMBERLY M. AQUILINA
@KimESTAqui
kimberly.aquilina@metro.us

President Donald Trump has been busy. Two weeks after the hurricane that devastated the U.S. territory Puerto Rico, POTUS finally visited and passed out supplies like paper towels.

There was a mass shooting in Las Vegas — another violent tragedy that happens all too often in our country. One thing that Trump seems to have forgotten: the Russia investigation.

In a move punishing Russia for its role in the 2016 election, congressionally approved sanctions against Russia were passed in the summer and Trump signed the bill in August. He also released a statement denouncing the bill as being "seriously flawed" and containing "a number of clearly unconstitutional provisions." He also added, "I built a truly great company worth many billions of dollars."

As part of the provisions, the White House, thus Trump, was given a deadline of Oct. 1 to specify the focus of the sanctions, but recent events seem to have "distracted" the Trump administration.

"Congress gave Trump 60 days to spell out which entities belong to Russia's defense and intelligence sectors," Eric Boehlert wrote for Shareblue Media. "In recent weeks, Trump has spent his time fuming at black NFL players, the mayor of San Juan, the 'ingrates' of Puerto Rico, and, as always, the 'fake media' that refuses to give him the praise he thinks he deserves.

President Trump has missed the Oct. 1 deadline for specifying the focus of Russia sanctions passed in August. GETTY IMAGES

"What he did not do is fulfill his obligation set by Congress to issue guidance on Russians sanctions."

Trump, who has called allegations of campaign collusion with Moscow a hoax, has faced questions about the matter since he took office in January.

Trump was told by former FBI director James Comey that a report compiled by former MI6 officer Christopher Steele contained salacious information about the businessman-turned-president.

"The committee cannot really decide the credibility of the dossier without understanding things like who paid for it, who are your sources and sub-sources," Senate panel's chairman Richard Burr said.

Burr said the panel wanted to finish its investigation by the end of the year.

A spokesman for special counsel Robert Mueller declined comment. The FBI also declined comment.

Russia has repeatedly denied any meddling in the election. Although several news organizations, including Reuters, were briefed on Steele's dossier before the election in November, most decided not to report on the material because its inflammatory and sometimes salacious content could not be verified at that time.

Reuters contributed to this report.

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The majority of anticancer drugs don't work, study shows

Medicine should either alleviate symptoms or improve quality of life, but a new study by researchers in Britain and Latvia shows that most of the anticancer drugs on the market don't do either.

The study — published this month in the British Medical Journal — looked at the 48 cancer medications approved by the European Medicines Agency between 2009 and 2013.

Researchers found that only 10 percent of approved drugs provided measurable improvements in quality of life for cancer patients. GETTY IMAGES

How many anticancer drugs work?

The researchers found that only 10 percent of the approved drugs provided measurable improvements in quality of life for cancer patients at the time they were approved — and 57 percent provided no benefits.

Study co-author Huseyin Naci, assistant professor of health policy at the London School of Economics, said that they looked at how the drugs performed over time.

"We wanted to see once [the drugs] were already on the market did they actually generate some evidence to show that they improved or extended life?" Naci told The Guardian. The results didn't improve much: 49 percent of the cancer drugs didn't help improve survival or quality of life in the three to eight-year follow-up period.

"What we find very surprising is that not very many studies are looking at overall survival or quality of life as their [primary] objective," said Naci. The breast cancer medication Herceptin and Zytiga, used for prostate cancer, were shown to help patients — as were 23 others. However, their ability to increase survival rates were "marginal," the researchers said.

The benefit vs. cost of anticancer drugs

Vinay Prasad, assistant professor of medicine at the Oregon Health and Science University, wrote that the results paint "a sobering picture" of medicine that can cost more than $100,000 yearly.

"The expense and toxicity of cancer drugs means we have an obligation to expose patients to treatment only when they can reasonably expect an improvement in survival or quality of life," Prasad wrote, adding that the study "suggests we may be falling far short."

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‘Blade Runner’ is back. We’ll tell you why.

Hampton Fancher, Denis Villeneuve, Harrison Ford, and Jared Leto talk “Blade Runner 2049.”

GREGORY WAKEMAN
@MetroNewYork
gregory.wakeman@metro.us

It’s taken 35 years, and many a twist and turn, to make the latest incarnation of “Blade Runner.” The 1982 original was such a fan favorite it made the journey for “2049” fraught, frustrating and leaving fans equally excited and nervous for a sequel.

We spoke to “Blade Runner” screenwriter Hampton Fancher and star Harrison Ford, both of whom have returned for the sequel, as well as “2049” director Denis Villeneuve and actor Jared Leto (who was only 11-years-old when the original was released). The quartet broke down how and why they made the movie.

Why did it take so long?
Hampton Fancher: “(Ridley Scott, director of the original “Blade Runner,” and I) met about three times in the late 80s over the space of 10 years to discuss the possibility of a sequel, and I was kind of excited about the idea of Deckard (Harrison Ford’s character) having a future. But the rights were never clear.”

What was your first reaction to the confirmation “Blade Runner” was coming back?
Harrison Ford: “Show me the script. Who are the people involved? When Ridley called the first question he had was, ‘Would you, in theory, be interested in this?’ He is quoted as saying that my reaction was, ‘Meh.’ But that was just my first reaction. What really mattered to me was the story to be told. And whether the character had a worthy purpose in the telling of this story. But we haven’t agreed on everything all of the time. This was a great opportunity, though.”

Ryan Gosling as Officer K, lit by the glorious Roger Deakins
WARNER BROTHERS

What was the most appealing aspect of returning to the world of “Blade Runner”?
Jared Leto: “It was just leaning on script. I had a great partner in Denis Villeneuve. You rehearse, you research, you explore, you experiment, you become part investigator/part researcher, you let your imagination wander and you experiment.”

What was it like working in the shadow of the original film?
Denis Villeneuve: “The ultimate test for a movie is if it can go through time, and if it can still be accurate and meaningful years after it’s released. That’s what the first film was able to achieve. Even though the world moved in a different direction than the first movie, there are a few things that are prophetic. Our relationship with technology has evolved, and the relationship between man and his creator is something that can be revisited through our new relationship with technology.”
Hampton Fancher: “In terms of the atmosphere and ambiance, it’s stronger than the first. Ridley was limited — he made that movie on a backlot set, and a lack of money. Ridley did fantastic, but this is a bigger world.”
Jared Leto: “The original is one of my favorite films. I’ve seen it a thousand times, and I’ve told a thousand people to watch it. Harrison is a legend to me, and then Denis is a genius, and a phenomenal filmmaker. To have the opportunity to work with them was just mind-blowing. But they both gave me a gift, and that meant a lot.”

“Blade Runner 2049” is released on October 6.

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John Cho wasn't sold on horror until 'The Exorcist'

Cho has come a long way since small roles in 'Bowfinger' and 'American Pie.' He currently stars in FOX's 'The Exorcist'. SERGEI BACHLAKOV/FOX

Cho talks horror and diversity ahead of tonight's episode.

IRENE AYUSO
MWN
letters@metro.us

John Cho is the newest star of FOX's "The Exorcist," which yes, is a sequel to the 1973 film of the same name. In the series, which airs Fridays at 9 p.m., the 45-year-old plays former child psychologist Andrew Kim. But he wasn't necessarily following a long held onto dream, or anything.

"I grew up avoiding those kinds of movies," he tells Metro. "At first, I had an aversion towards horror, but then 'The Exorcist' came along. It's been a lot of fun."

The Seoul-born actor — who you may remember from the viral #StarringJohnCho campaign, an inclusion-inspired movement that imagined a world where every leading actor is played by Cho himself — also knows it's important to see his face, in particular, in the terrifying anthology series. "I had not seen Asian faces in American horror," he told Entertainment Weekly in September. "It kind of tickled me to want to change that visual vocabulary a bit."

We chatted more with the "Star Trek" alum about understanding the horror genre, religious influences and diversity in television.

What was it like coming into the horror genre for the first time?
I really had a great time working on the series. Now, I'm trying to learn mechanically what the horror genre requires: where the camera should be, for example, because it's not just about music and special effects, it's about increasing tension. So I feel like I'm learning a lot about this genre and I'm really delighted to be doing it.

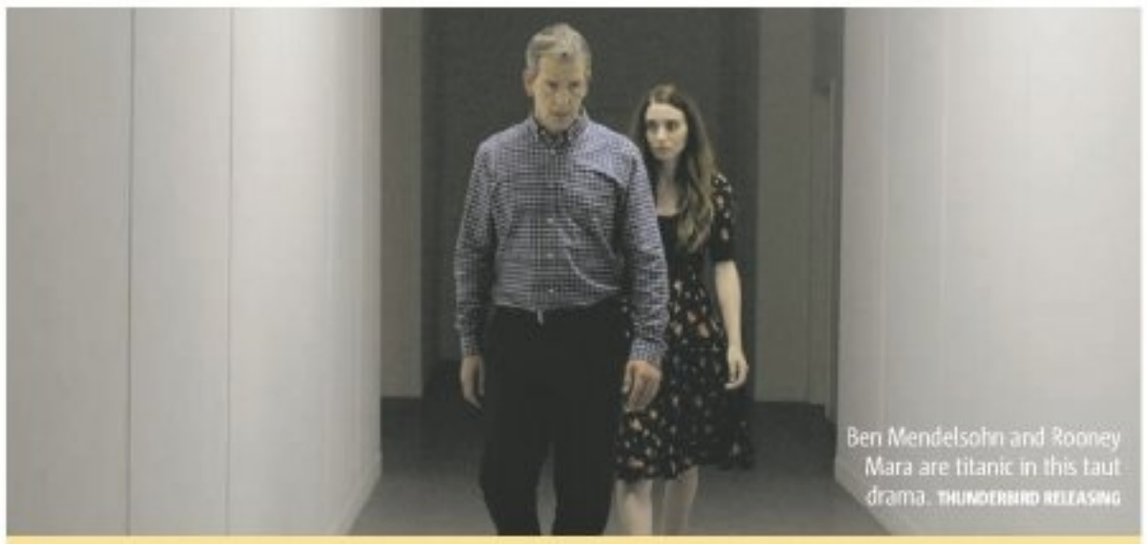
You guys are in the woods a lot this season. It's very spooky.
That's compelling to me. It feels epic changing not only place, but also climate, atmosphere. Woods become mysterious when lit. You can see the beauty and danger of nature at the same place — the love and the wrath of God. You know, there are so many terrible things happening in the forests at night. That's why people go and leave dead bodies there.

Speaking of God, you grew up Catholic. How has that influenced your work in this series?
Exorcisms and anything related to demons in general were a taboo in my family. But Catholicism was also a kind of taboo. So I am confronting all of that, all the taboos of my youth, in a single television series.

Why should people be watching this series?
The characters — and I'm talking about everyone, including Father Tomas (Alfonso Herrera) and Father Marcus (Ben Daniels) — and the new additions, they make the series very resilient. And the show explores why we suffer, why we love, all the important things in life. It's a story people care about.

GETTY

And it's very diverse which is a great thing to see on TV.
I've been in other films and series that have been really diverse, like "Star Trek." Directors and producers keep talking about diversity, but for me it's so natural. And it was something that attracted me to this series: The cast was already very diverse, and you don't really see that in horror.



Ben Mendelsohn and Rooney Mara are titanic in this taut drama. THUNDERBIRD RELEASING

'Una'

Director: Benedict Andrews
Stars: Ben Mendelsohn, Rooney Mara
Rating: R

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"Una" is uncomfortable and at times deeply unpleasant. But it is also captivating, thanks to director Benedict Andrews' pitch perfect mise-en-scene. His balanced, character-driven hand allows "Una" to adapt from the theatre to film seamlessly, while also provoking a thousand different arguments in the process.

Beguiling performances from leads Ben Mendelsohn and Rooney Mara will keep you invested. A toned-down Mendelsohn almost seduces you onto his side, all the while teasing a darker undercurrent. But even he can't quite match Mara, who plays with the silences and uses the slightest of facial movements and grimaces to make you feel sympathetic for her — and then, in the next moment, instantly wary of her. It's probably her best performance to date.

GREGORY WAKEMAN

'The Florida Project'

Director: Sean Baker
Stars: Willem Dafoe, Brooklynn Kimberly Prince
Rating: R

●●●●◖

It's impossible not to fall a little bit in love with "The Florida Project." While that's mostly thanks to the youthful vibrancy and energy that's generated by Brooklyn Kimberly Prince as Moonee, it helps that director Sean Baker and cinematographer Alexis Zabe's camera is warm and non-judgmental to its downtrodden yet charismatic characters.

Rather than being heavy on plot, "The Florida Project" intimately explores the modern underbelly of the working class, allowing you to wallow in their world. At various points you expect the film to explode into action. Instead it offers a poetic, funny and beautifully composed look at characters that cinema doesn't usually explore. And it's anchored by astounding performances. Especially Willem Dafoe, who is caring, abrupt and destined to be remembered for this terrific performance. If all is right with the cinematic world, the rest of the cast and crew shouldn't be far behind. GW

Willem Dafoe is immediately in the running for a Best Supporting Actor Oscar. A24

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You never know what you'll see at Old City Fest. KYLE OBER

4 Things you can't miss at Old City Fest this year

Ice cream and mini golf? Yes, please!

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Looking for something fun and free to do this weekend? Make your way down to Old City for their fourth annual Old City Fest on Sunday, Oct. 8. Starting at 11 a.m., N. 3rd Street (from Market to Race) and Arch Street (from 2nd to 4th) will become one giant outdoor party, complete with food, music, shopping and more until 6 p.m.

"Old City Fest highlights our region's premier arts and design district, showcasing local designers, creative firms, restaurants, retailers, galleries, theater, culture, history and architecture," says Old City District's Executive Director, Job Itzkowitz. "Old City Fest was designed to be different."

Here are four things you can't miss this year.

The food

While the event is free to attend, food and drink is pay-as-you-go. Keep an eye out for The Little Lion, which will be serving up BBQ chicken thigh sliders, smoked chicken wings and raspberry sangria, as well as Buddakan, which will have pork dumplings, Cantonese rolls and draft beer on the menu. Craving dessert? Look no further than Franklin Fountain and their seasonal ice cream bar, which will even include a vegan pumpkin flavor.

The music

This very well may be the biggest year so far for Old City Fest in terms of music. Headlining the main stage this year is Red Baraat, a Brooklyn-based octet, which has been called "the best party band in years" by NPR and "a big band for the world" by the Wall Street Journal. Philly's own Chill Moody will also take the stage this year.

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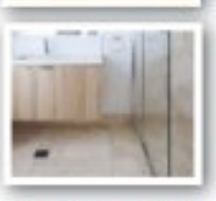

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The Little Lion gets the grill going. PROVIDED

Old City Fest is the perfect way to embrace fall. PROVIDED

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Named "Best Rapper" by Philadelphia Magazine, Chill Moody has also performed at The Roots Picnic, Made in America and more high profile events. Other performers include Ernest Stuart, a trombonist who plays everything from hip-hop to salsa and 12-year-old DJ D-ILL, a young DJ who's already performed at the White House.

The shopping

Whether you're looking to spice up your wardrobe or buy some new decor for your home, Old City Fest has you covered. Philadelphia Independents is sponsoring Independents Row (35 N. 3rd Street), which will feature local makers of jewelry, ceramics and even candles. Shopping newcomers this year include 36 Craven (antiques, textiles and artwork), Benjamin Lovell Shoes, Artist and Craftsman Supply, Margot and Camille Optique, Meadowsweet Mercantile (vintage), Nigel Richards Menswear, Philly Socks, The Geisha House (women's clothing and accessories) and Rennes (women's clothing and accessories).

Family fun

Bringing the kids? Stop by the Family Fun Zone first, which will feature performances from the Give & Take Jugglers, Magician Ken Northridge, Philadelphia Dance Academy and more. At the Betsy Ross House, witness how chocolate was made in the 18th century. There will even be a mini golf course at Franklin Square Park as well as a bunch of "revolutionary" activities at the Museum of the American Revolution's tent, including colonial paper hat-making.

If you go

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A portal to the Upside Down opens in Fishtown

Definitely check out the "Stranger Things" party this Saturday.

MADELINE PRESLAND
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Get ready to dress to the nines (or rather the 11's) and dance all night in an alternate dimension.

Nerdy dance party experts Riot Nerd are back with an event fit for the show's hardcore fans and dance enthusiasts alike. The "Upside Down Stranger Things Dance Party" takes place at Kung Fu Necktie on Saturday Oct. 7. This party is certain to help fans get ready for the new season, available on Netflix on Oct. 27. The event is named after the dimension from the show that young character Will gets trapped in, as mysterious portals to the parallel world open in the fictional town of Hawking, IN.

The decorations help make a dance party go to the next level. Riot Nerd co-founder Megan Hawkey promises biohazard everything, Christmas decorations and a special surprise that fans will love. Hawkey is still keeping some details under wraps, but Kung Fu Necktie is definitely going to be lit in more ways than one. More than six thousand people are interested in the Facebook event for the dance party.

The poster for the event features unlikely fan favorite Barb, who goes missing in the first season. PROVIDED

"This is the most elaborate party we've ever done," Hawkey says. "I expected it to do well, but this is a little overwhelming."

Costumes are definitely encouraged. The more '80s flair you have, the better. Wassup Gina, who is DJing alongside fellow fan Shearn, plans to dress up as Joyce Byers. Since she's bringing her Win-

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Wassup Gina and Shearn plan on playing plenty of '80s influenced techno. FAME LUST

ona Ryder, she hopes to see someone try to dress up as the monster from the Upside Down.

As for the music, expect a mixture of techno and synth wave from all genres. Although the default option would be to go all out with '80s classics, Gina wants to set a little bit more of a mood fitting for a secret experiment and unknown world. She and her co-DJ have a set that draws inspiration from musicians Kyle Dixon and Michael Stein, who composed the music from the first season of the show. Gina is particularly inspired by the instantly recognizable theme. Soft driving beats combine with ethereal sounding synth to create the eerie, yet not too dark, opener.

"I want everyone to feel like they they're part of the show, or living in a sci-fi movie for the night," Gina says.

If you go:

"Upside Down Stranger Things Dance Party"
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Mad Rex certainly makes a lasting first impression even before you walk in. KEITH GUNTHER

Mad Rex opens to the public

Who knew the day after the apocalypse could be so much fun?

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Need a fresh start this weekend? Make your way to Mad Rex in Fishtown for their grand opening festivities today, with the ribbon cutting at 10:45 a.m. The world's first restaurant with a post-apocalypse theme celebrates the day after the apocalypse and the beginning of a new chapter with a "butcher to table" food experience, virtual reality chamber, bar, stage, lounge and outdoor event space.

Pavel Rathousky, a butcher from Prague, first came up with the concept, noticing the popularity of the post apocalypse in movies like "The Matrix," "Mad Max" and "The Book of Eli" and TV shows like "The Walking Dead."

"We wanted to create a 'first in the world experience' in a city that is famous for many historic firsts," says Rathousky. "There is no other place in the world right now where food-goers can experience this unique style of venue, entertainment and cuisine all in one place."

As of 11 a.m. today, the restaurant will be open to the public, and guests can sip cocktails from glasses with bullets in them, cook their own meat on slabs of black rock and dig into homemade ice cream placed in a Himalayan salt bowl.

If you go

Mad Rex
1000 Frankford Ave.
themadrex.com

Here's a list of the rest of the events for the grand opening weekend for Mad Rex:

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Rebel Rabbitt Hula Hoop
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 6
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
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Friday, Oct. 6
Rev the Firebreather
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 6
10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
DJ Mixology

Saturday, Oct. 7
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Rebel Rabbitt Hula Hoop

Saturday, Oct. 7
10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
DJ Ronnie

Saturday, Oct. 7
7 p.m. to Midnight
Rev the Firebreather

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Sixers in preseason: Simmons, Okafor impress while Fultz struggles

Jahlil Okafor could prove to be very important this season. GETTY IMAGES

Here are three things to watch for as the preseason continues for the Sixers.

ANDY JASNER
@AndyJasner
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The official start of the 2017-18 NBA season is inching closer.

But for the starved 76ers fan base, Tuesday's preseason opener against the Memphis Grizzlies had been anxiously anticipated for quite a while. A crowd in excess of 18,000 packed the Wells Fargo Center even though they knew that Joel Embiid and Dario Saric would be held out.

Finally, the Sixers are beginning to resemble a basketball team. The excitement is evident. There were even boos careening down against Kris Humphries.

Yet it wasn't perfect. The final score never matters in preseason so forget about the 21-point loss to the Grizzlies. Plenty of other storylines emerged so let's look at three:

1 Ben Simmons could be special

The No. 1 overall pick in the 2016 draft, Simmons registered a game-high nine assists to go along with six points, seven rebounds and a block in 22 minutes. He looked comfortable on an NBA court after missing all of last season with a foot injury.

Fast forward to later in the season and it will be easy to see why Simmons is so highly touted.

"Oh my god. I don't want to see that for the next 15 years," Grizzlies coach David Fizdale told reporters after the game. "That kid, they're not talking about him enough. The way he moves with the ball, his ability to see the floor, the way he can get places on the floor, once he gets confidence in his shot where you really have to close out all the way to the three. Wow. He is a big-time talent."

2 Markelle Fultz is struggling

The top overall pick from this year's draft had four points, three assists and two rebounds in 23 minutes and seemed to lack confidence in his shot. Remember that Fultz is still a teenager (19) and there will be a steep learning curve. It will take time though Sixers fans don't want to hear about waiting any longer.

"It was kind of like I thought it was going to be, tough being a rookie, you might not get as many calls as you usually would," Fultz said. "So just going out there, having fun and giving it my all and I thought I did a good job with that."

3 Jahlil Okafor still has it

A slimmed-down Okafor was really aggressive with 13 points on 5-of-6 shooting and six rebounds off the bench. Okafor looked like a different player and his new level of fitness will certainly help. If Okafor can provide a contribution this season, it would be a major benefit.

"I thought Jahlil was good," Sixers coach Brett Brown told the assembled media. "He came in. He had a bounce. He had the energy. He scored. I thought he was particularly good defensively. The combination of him being able to score like he did tonight and with his improved defense, he looks more nimble with his body. He looked like he moved more easily on the court."

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Can Sixers' first overall, rookie point guards Simmons, Fultz play together?

Ben Simmons and Markelle Fultz played just over 10 minutes together in their first game.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
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Will the Sixers figure out a rotation that gets the most out of their talented first overall picks at point guard? GETTY IMAGES

Sixers' rookie point guards Ben Simmons and Markelle Fultz, the last two No. 1 overall picks in NBA Drafts, suited up for their first NBA (preseason) game Wednesday and were on the floor together for 10:18 of clock time.

Which also means that for another 10 minutes or so, the Sixers went with just one or the other. In a tune up game that had an ugly result and a game that saw the team sit out several key players like Joel Embiid and Dario Saric, it's hard to really judge. But looking at those 10 minutes, sparks flew.

From alley-oops to back-door passes, Fultz appeared to yield to Simmons, who brought the ball up the court and started the offense. Sixers preseason: Ben Simmons, Jahlil Okafor impress while Markelle Fultz struggles. He played point guard at Washington and in high school and isn't exactly an NBA combo-guard. Though he'll guard the opposing team's point guard on defense he will have to learn how to play at the 2-guard and further his ability to shoot from the perimeter and mid-range.

Sizing up

Ben Simmons
6'10" 238 lbs
1st overall in 2016
19.2 ppg, 11.8 rpg
(at LSU)

Markelle Fultz
6'4" 195 lbs
23.2 ppg, 5.9 apg
(at Washington)

"I think I will be comfortable with it," Fultz said last week at Sixers Media Day of playing with Simmons. "My main goal is to do whatever I can to help the team win, and if that is me playing on or off the ball I am going to do it."

Fultz' shooting will need to be much better than the 2-for-13 performance he posted in 22 minutes Wednesday. But as far as chemistry, the makings are there for the duo to work well together. It starts off the floor.

"He's a great player, a good friend," Simmons said. "That's going to play a big role in this team's success, as long as you're cool off the court when you're on the court the gel happens."

The Sixers are back in action for Preseason Game 2 Friday against the Celtics. Fultz is listed as probable with a minor shoulder injury after sitting out practice Thursday.

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3 Things to watch for

Fourth quarter woes

The Eagles' defense has allowed 52 points in the fourth quarter, more than they've allowed in the first three quarters combined. The stout defense that looks intimidating and in control during the first half of games has been lackluster at the ends of games and has nearly blown two big leads down the stretch. Assuredly, Philadelphia will be emphasizing a full 60-minute performance from the defense when the Cardinals come to town.

"We've been thinking on that," Eagled defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz said. "We were in the exact opposite position last year. Last year, we were struggling a little bit in the first half and second half we were pitching shutouts. I think there's a lot of layers to everything that goes on on the football field. 52 points in any quarter is too many. Whether it's the first or the fourth. We've got to do a better job of keeping points off the board."

WEEK 5

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The Eagles' first three wins have come against teams with a combined 2-10 record — losing to the now 4-0 Chiefs. In their remaining 12 games, Philly faces just three teams currently with winning records. Sure, it's early, but the Eagles will find themselves favorites in the majority of the rest of their games. They need to take care of business when they're supposed to win. If they do, the'll make the playoffs.

According to Vegas, the Eagles' NFC East odds are not -130, heavy favorites over the Cowboys (+215) and Redskins (+450).

EVAN MACY

NFL Week 5

Arizona Cardinals at Philadelphia Eagles (-6.5)

The Eagles continue to trend favorably, having covered in five of their last seven games, while the Cardinals have failed to cover in four of their last five.

Philly's offense, led by Carson Wentz, has shredded opposing defensive units this year, ranking in the top 10 in scoring, yards per game and time of possession. They'll face a flawed Arizona squad that features a middle-of-the-road defense (8th by YPG) whose numbers are slightly inflated owing to the weak offenses of the Colts and 49ers.

The Cardinals' aerial attack is their only saving grace (second by YPG), and they do draw a favorable matchup with the Eagles pass stoppers (30th by YPG). However, their moribund ground game may have a hard time keeping Philly's defense honest, as the mismatch is just as stark as the one in the passing department (worst run attack by YPG against the NFL's third-best run-stopping unit).

The Eagles should fly by the Cardinals and boost their record to 4-1.

The pick: Eagles -6.5

Packers at **Cowboys (-2)**

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as Eagles host Cardinals

Stop the big play

The Eagles nearly lost each of their last two victories thanks to the big play. A depleted secondary that is awaiting a healthy return for Ronald Darby, and debut for Sidney Jones, has given up a league-high five pass plays of 40 or more yards. Arizona's Larry Fitzgerald could join a big list of opposing receivers who have gone off against the Birds, including Chargers' Keenan Allen (138 yards), and Tyrell Willians (115 yards), Giants' Sterling Shepard (133 yards) and Odell Beckham Jr. (two TD), and Chiefs' Travis Kelce (103 yards).

"He is a tremendous receiver," Eagles' head coach Doug Pederson said of the Cardinals future hall of fame receiver Fitzgerald. "He's a pro's pro, the way he prepares himself during the week to play. Having those guys on your team obviously gives your quarterback a lot of confidence and that's kind of the go-to guy. We've got our work cut out for us defensively, because they also have speed guys that can roll. It will be a big test."

The Eagles can move to 4-1 with a win over the 2-2 Cardinals this weekend. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

gambling guide: bet on Birds

Buffalo Bills at Cincinnati Bengals (-3)

Andy Dalton and the Bengals took care of business against the woeful Browns last week, but they're in for a serious challenge hosting the Bills this week.

Buffalo's defense leads the league in PPG allowed (13.5) and is second in opponent passer rating (64.1). They've been just as stingy on the road as they've been at home, as they allowed just 17 points to the Falcons' offense in Atlanta last week.

LeSean McCoy should be able to run the ball effectively for the Bills against Cincinnati's 18th-ranked run stoppers, which would help Buffalo win the time of possession battle. Turnovers could be a factor in what's likely to be a low-scoring contest and the Bills have a significant advantage there. Buffalo's turnover ratio is plus-6 through four games, while Cincinnati's is minus-5.

The pick: Bills +3

Minnesota Vikings (-3) at Chicago Bears

Second overall pick Mitchell Trubisky will be thrown to the wolves by the Chicago Bears on Monday night.

Minnesota's defense has been adept at stopping big plays, allowing just nine passes of 20 or more yards through four games. By contrast, the Bears have completed an embarrassingly-low four passes of 20 or more yards. Chicago has relied on a stout rushing attack led by Jordan Howard and Tarik Cohen, but they should be stifled by the Vikings' third-ranked rush defense.

Assuming Case Keenum is still under center, he'll have the benefit of adding wideout Michael Floyd, back after serving a suspension, to his arsenal. The Vikings were already sixth-best in yards per play before adding this down-field threat. And although Dalvin Cook was lost for the season with an ACL tear, Latavius Murray should pick up the slack in the backfield. Minnesota is the best bet of the week.

The pick: Vikings -3

BEST OF THE REST

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- Titans (-3) at **Dolphins (-2)**
- Panthers at **Lions (-2.5)**
- Jaguars at **Steelers (-8.5)**
- 49ers at **Colts (-1.5)**
- **Chargers** at Giants **(-4)**
- Jets at **Browns (-1)**
- **Ravens** at Raiders **(-2.5)**
- Seahawks at **Rams (-1)**
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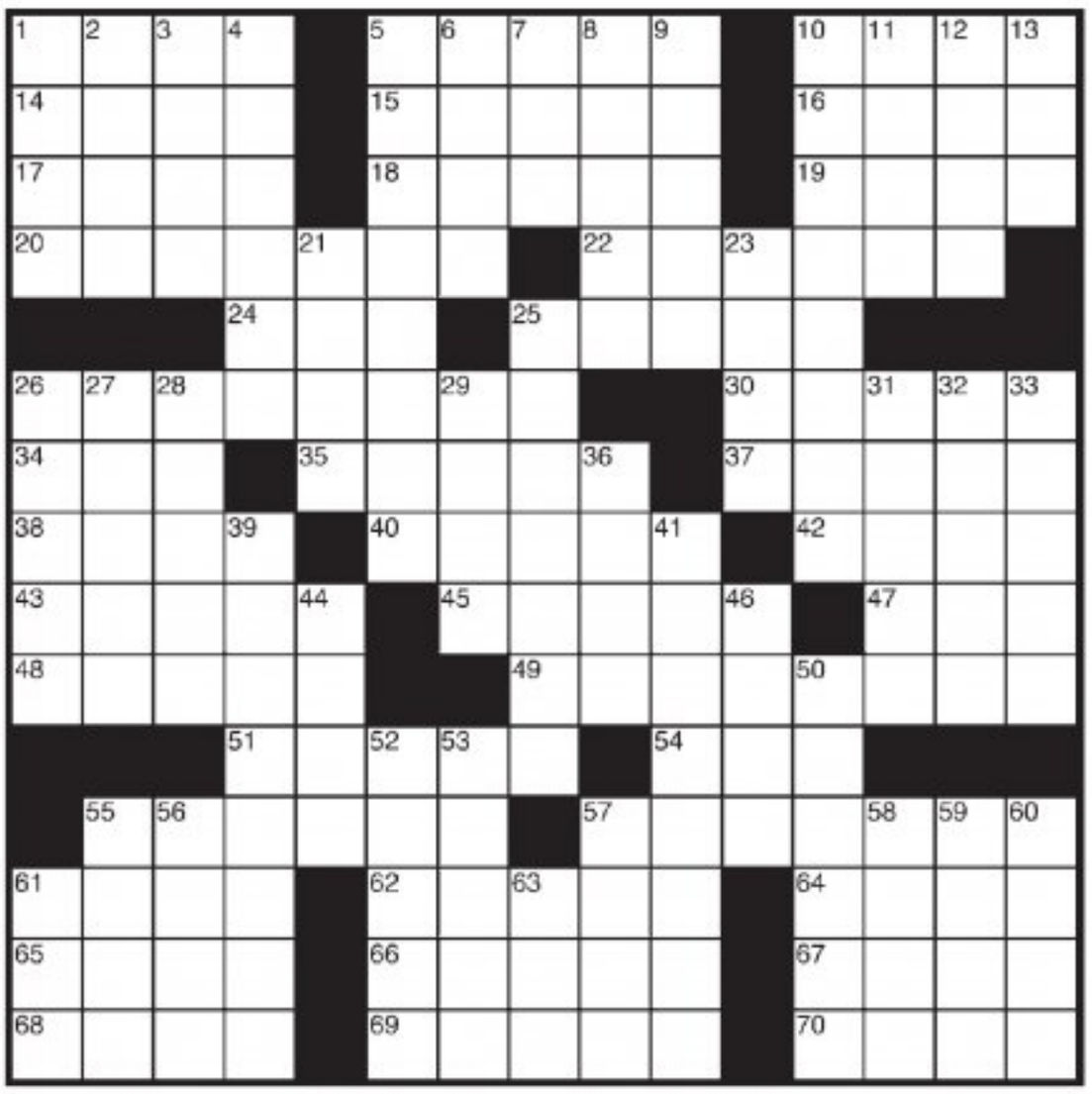
Across
1 Tough fiber
5 Should
10 Doubtful
14 Bogus butter
15 Scornful gaze
16 Twine
17 Salve
18 Stone pillar
19 Fleecy animals
20 Smallest Great Lake
22 Make possible
24 Rock's – Leppard
25 Exaggerated
26 Stickiness
30 Tots of whiskey
34 Raw metal
35 Coach
37 Snow house
38 Wreck
40 R2D2 or C-3P0
42 Round building
43 Seacoast events
45 Beet product
47 Domestic animal
48 "Toodle-oo!"
49 Pickpocket's craft
51 Distance down
54 "Norma –"
55 Fuse
57 Acrobat
61 Kachina maker
62 Valid reasoning
64 Embankment
65 Perfect place
66 Powerful engine
67 Garfield's housemate
68 Masculine principle
69 Sprinkle
70 Meadow grazers

Down
1 Freight hopper
2 Dash or vivacity
3 Liquefy
4 Hair ointment
5 Became inflexible
6 Till
7 Gosh!
8 – Gurley Brown
9 What's in
10 Growlers
11 Some game
12 Let loose
13 Fabric meas
21 Break
23 Autobahn vehicle
25 Gawky and crude
26 Large artery
27 Stonehenge worshiper
28 Alpine moppet
29 Boathouse items
31 Woody Allen movie
32 Tooth type
33 Like a chimney
36 Shrill
39 Teasing
41 Milk source (2 wds.)
44 Took to court
46 Juice a grapefruit
50 Ballpark employee
52 Bombards with snowballs
53 Speckled fish
55 – fountain
56 Candid
57 Derisive remark
58 Non-soap opera
59 Thumb through
60 Football stands
61 Yo!
63 Canine warning



metro.us/sudoku

easy

		7	5		3		8	
9	8	5					4	
	2	6	4			7		
	9							
		1	7		4	8		
							2	
		4			7	1	6	
	7					2	9	3
	5		1		2	4		

hard

		1			5			
2	7			4		1		
3				1	6		8	
7		5						4
6			4		1			7
9						6		1
	2		6	8				3
		3		5			6	2
			1			9		

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries You'll find it difficult to say no to temptation. Unexpected changes will catch you flat-footed. A business trip or meeting looks promising.

Taurus Temptation will lead to bad habits and difficulty living up to your responsibilities and promises. Avoid emotional situations that could affect your position.

Gemini Keep your emotions out of the equation if you are faced with changes that you aren't certain about. Making a snap decision will lead to greater uncertainty and regret.

Cancer Refuse to let anyone take advantage of you. Opt out of any situation that would require you to do all the work. Avoid excessive behavior and hasty decisions.

Leo A change will be in your best interest. A proposition will require you to revive a skill or knowledge you haven't used in a while. Your experience will give you an edge.

Virgo Temptation will be your downfall. Don't overspend, overreact or get involved in indulgent behavior. Common sense will save you from financial and emotional loss.

Libra A steady pace will get you where you want to go. If you are erratic or impulsive, you will make mistakes that will set you back. Let wisdom and experience guide you.

Scorpio Walk away from unpredictable situations. Protect your reputation and position. Refuse to let anyone coerce you into making an impulsive move.

Sagittarius You'll crave excitement and social activities. Your enthusiasm will give others a boost, and your popularity will result in new opportunities and friendships.

Capricorn Avoid temptation. Refuse to get caught up in someone else's dream or dilemma. Stay focused on what's important to you, and be reluctant to make a sudden change.

Aquarius A smart move will result in an unexpected reward that will change your life. An open mind and an inventive idea will give you a chance to explore new avenues.

Pisces You'll be tempted to make a hasty decision that could have serious consequences. Think before you act, and refuse to let your emotions push you to take a risk. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

W	A	R	M	S	■	T	O	A	S	T	■	B	O	D
A	R	O	M	A	■	A	R	B	O	R	■	R	U	E
D	I	T	C	H	■	R	A	B	B	I	■	A	I	L
■	■	■	A	P	P	L	Y	■	B	E	N	J	I	■
■	A	Z	O	R	E	S	■	■	P	A	N	D	A	S
A	G	O	R	A	S	■	F	I	E	L	D	■	■	■
S	A	R	I	■	O	P	E	R	A	■	E	W	E	R
E	I	R	E	■	A	R	K	■	A	R	N	O	■	■
A	N	O	N	■	R	I	N	S	E	■	R	U	T	S
■	■	■	T	O	O	N	S	■	A	M	E	N	R	A
S	O	M	A	L	I	■	■	S	T	O	D	G	Y	■
C	H	I	L	D	■	N	E	P	A	L	■	■	■	■
R	A	D	■	E	M	I	L	E	■	T	U	D	O	R
E	R	A	■	S	A	L	S	A	■	E	M	E	R	Y
W	E	S	■	T	W	E	A	K	■	D	A	N	C	E

Can't wait until tomorrow to check your answers? Visit **metro.us**

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